

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700085

1. Project Description

A. Statement of GO Activity

La Grange Regional Park is the most diverse of all the regional parks with approximately 730 acres. The park offers 147-acres of exciting off-road vehicle recreation. La Grange Regional Park resources are in fair condition considering the prior use of land (quarry) before it became an OHV Park. Continued conservation efforts are needed on the swale system that leads down to the main OHV trails area.

This grant application is for a Ground Operations (GO) for La Grange OHV Park. The grant would help keep the park in operation for the numerous motocross races that have more than doubled in the past year. It would also assist the County in meeting the needs of users who frequent the park on weekends or holidays. The grant funds would assist the County in servicing the facility in the following areas:

Entrance Station collection/support Cleaning restrooms
Volunteer support and coordination Trash collection
Physical barriers for traffic control Fencing repairs
Regulatory and directional signage Maintaining trees
Site and program management Electrical repairs

With the operational funding for a Park Maintenance Worker III, II, I and Park aide, the County would be able to provide a greater level of service to our constituents that use the facility. The County staff will be available to assure a clean, well-groomed, and positive recreational experience for our OHV users by keeping the bathrooms clean and grading the motor cross track. Should significant changes in the terrain or environment develop, staff will be present to assess and address these important issues. Without operational funding, staff presence will be reduced and only available during the peak season. The current peak season for this park is roughly from October 15 through May 15. With our present staff, we are able to grade the track monthly for scheduled motocross races during the peak season. On the off-season, the park is maintained sporadically.

There is presently a well at the park, which besides being used for the maintenance of the track, also waters the trees, and provides irrigation for ground cover adjacent to the track. The County received an OHV grant that paid for the electrical source for the well, pumps, water lines, water tanks, and associated needs to complete the water system. Due to the location of the well, a fence was constructed to protect the holding tanks, since the location of the area is so remote.

The water tank currently holds 10,000-gallons of water to be used primarily for grooming the motocross track at the La Grange OHV Park. Due to the increase in races, the County has increased the water tanks to a maximum of 30,000 gallons. The County will continue to assess whether or not the water system meets the needs of the track as usage increases. The sport is growing in popularity and it can be measured by the increase in the number of races held at the park.

B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

The project will address protection and enhancement of OHV opportunity and access the possibilities of new opportunities.

La Grange Off-Highway Vehicle Park is located in a remote area of La Grange. Approximately 2.5 miles south of the town of La Grange on J-59 the County owns 147 acres of abandoned dredge area that is dedicated for off road vehicle use. The OHV Park currently includes an overnight use area with parking lot and restrooms. Due to the isolated nature of this site, all site furnishings need to be made of long lasting, vandal resistant materials. Within the rough terrain area, earth moving equipment such as dozers, should be provided full time at the park and an on-going program of track maintenance and erosion control needs to be implemented.

The crew responsible for the La Grange OHV Park is also the same crew that maintains Modesto Reservoir Regional Park.

This regional park is approximately 6,040 acres – of this amount, 2,800 acres provides opportunities for water skiing, jet skiing, sailing, swimming fishing and duck hunting. Currently there are six full time employees and 9 part time employees that work from April to September (during the height of the season) for both the reservoir and the La Grange Regional Park. This crew is also responsible for several La Grange historical sites (two historical cemeteries, museum, and school house). As you can see the workload is enormous with the current limited staff.

This project enhances and protects the current OHV opportunity by providing additional staff that would be focused on OHV opportunities and tasks. Each year during the high use season for OHV enthusiast, which is from October through June, two to three full time staff is redirected to La Grange OHV park to gear up for the special events and day to day use of the park. Due to a lack of sufficient staff, most of the maintenance begins a month before the OHV season. This Ground Operations Grant would enable the County to dedicate additional people to the area thus giving the park the attention it needs to offer our clients the best riding experience possible. Having a presence at the park, because of its remote location, also helps eliminate illegal riding and trespassing and prevents off-route travel.

Without the grant funding the Park is maintained sporadically, and without a presence, there is increased theft and vandalism at the park. This year alone the County has repaired the entrance station several times. On one occasion the entrance station was set on fire, the locks were tampered with and the windows were broken. The bathrooms suffer a great amount of graffiti and the fences are cut. Quite frequently we find bullet holes in our buildings and signs. With a presence at the park, the Park Maintenance workers could report more of these incidents to the sheriff's office and reduce the amount of vandalism by simply being there since most incidents occur when no one is present.

C. Size of the Project

La Grange Regional Park is the most diverse of all the regional parks with approximately 730 acres. The park offers 147-acres of exciting off-road vehicle recreation. La Grange Regional Park resources are in fair condition considering the prior use of land (quarry) before it became an OHV Park.

D. Location and description of OHV opportunities

Visitors who go to the La Grange OHV area will meet challenges like soft sandy soil, water hazards, and hill climbs. There was a recent addition of an intermediate track for users between the ages of ten and fifteen years old. The user of the park can expect to enjoy groomed trails, groomed competitive tracks, camping, restrooms, benches, shade trees, and barbecues.

The groups who enjoy the park are the Over the Hill Gang, Modesto 4-wheel drive, CMA Racing, East Bay High Tailers, American Motocross Promotions, Mutant Motor Sports, A.M.P. Racing, Merced Dirt Riders, and CORVA. The types of vehicles used here are dune buggies, motorcycles and ATV's and miscellaneous 4 wheel drives.

The volunteer program with the Modesto Ridge runners and the County is still active. The Modesto Ridge runners have volunteered time to accomplish litter and debris removal as well as keeping the park well groomed.

Partnerships with CMA Racing for motocross events have also helped bring awareness of the recreational opportunities at La Grange OHV Park. As part of the race promoters' responsibility, the motocross track is groomed before each event. Attendance has been excellent. Each event draws in approximately 2-5 hundred riders and five hundred spectators. With this current contract we have 10 scheduled races per year for the next five years. The promoter is responsible to maintain the proper care of the facility, including provision of additional restrooms, garbage collection, and grading of the motocross track.

La Grange Off-Highway Vehicle Park is located in a remote area outside of La Grange. With this Ground Operations (GO) grant we can offer the public additional coverage at the park to maintain the recreational facility as well as to answer any questions or address any problems that might arise. The grant would help to keep the park looking its best, not just for the scheduled races but year around for the occasional user of the park.

2. Rerouting Requirements

Rerouting

(a) Does your project involve rerouting of any roads and trails?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If response to question (a) is 'Yes', a Project timeline, conceptual drawings and site plans are required (See 'Attachments' tab at the top of the screen)

If response to question (a) is 'No', skip details related to rerouting

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1. **Project Timeline (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**
2. **Conceptual Drawings and Site Plans (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**

3 **Project-Specific Maps**

Attachments:

[La Grange OHV Map](#)

4. **Optional Project-Specific Application Documents**

Attachments:

[La Grange Picture](#)

[La Grange Pictures](#)

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
 Agency: Stanislaus County Parks and Recreation Department
 Application: Ground Operations - La Grange

6/2/2009

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
APPLICANT NAME :	Stanislaus County Parks and Recreation Department		
PROJECT TITLE :	Ground Operations - La Grange	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	
PROJECT TYPE :	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>La Grange Regional Park is the most diverse of all the regional parks with approximately 730 acres. The park offers 147-acres of exciting off-road vehicle recreation. La Grange Regional Park resources are in fair condition considering the prior use of land (quarry) before it became an OHV Park. Continued conservation efforts are needed on the swale system that leads down to the main OHV trails area.</p> <p>This grant application is for a Ground Operations (GO) for La Grange OHV Park. The grant would help keep the park in operation for the numerous motocross races that have more than doubled in the past year. It would also assist the County in meeting the needs of users who frequent the park on weekends or holidays. The grant funds would assist the County in servicing the facility in the following areas:</p> <p>Entrance Station collection/support Cleaning restrooms Volunteer support and coordination Trash collection Physical barriers for traffic control Fencing repairs Regulatory and directional signage Maintaining trees Site and program management Electrical repairs</p> <p>With the operational funding for a Park Maintenance Worker III, II, I and Park aide, the County would be able to provide a greater level of service to our constituents that use the facility. The County staff will be available to assure a clean, well-groomed, and positive recreational experience for our OHV users by keeping the bathrooms clean and grading the motor cross track. Should significant changes in the terrain or environment develop, staff will be present to assess and address these important issues. Without operational funding, staff presence will be reduced and only available during the peak season. The current peak season for this park is roughly from October 15 through May 15. With our present staff, we are able to grade the track monthly for scheduled motocross races during the peak season. On the off-season, the park is maintained sporadically.</p> <p>There is presently a well at the park, which besides being used for the maintenance of the track, also waters the trees, and provides irrigation for ground cover adjacent to the track. The County received an OHV grant that paid for the electrical source for the well, pumps, water lines, water tanks, and associated needs to complete the water system. Due to the location of the well, a fence was constructed to protect the holding tanks, since the location of the area is so remote.</p> <p>The water tank currently holds 10,000-gallons of water to be used primarily for grooming the motocross track at the La Grange OHV Park. Due to the increase in races, the County has increased the water tanks to a maximum of 30,000 gallons. The County will continue to assess whether or not the water system meets the needs of the track as usage increases. The sport is growing in popularity and it can be measured by the increase in the number of races held at the park.</p>		

Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES						

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: Stanislaus County Parks and Recreation Department
Application: Ground Operations - La Grange

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	Senior Maintenance Worker	640.000	49.890	HRS	23,947.25	7,982.75	31,930.00
	Park Maintenance Worker	640.000	39.480	HRS	18,950.25	6,316.75	25,267.00
	Park Maintenance Worker	960.000	31.950	HRS	23,004.00	7,668.00	30,672.00
	Seasonal Maintenance Worker	480.000	13.720	HRS	4,939.50	1,646.50	6,586.00
	Total for Staff				70,841.00	23,614.00	94,455.00
2	Contracts						
	Other-Asphalt Striping	1.000	1500.000	YR	1,125.00	375.00	1,500.00
3	Materials / Supplies						
	Fencing Supplies	1.000	8500.000	YR	6,375.00	2,125.00	8,500.00
	Other-Vehicle & Riding Area Materials	1.000	12000.000	YR	9,000.00	3,000.00	12,000.00
	Other-Office & Entrance Station	1.000	800.000	YR	600.00	200.00	800.00
	Other-Signage	1.000	500.000	YR	375.00	125.00	500.00
	Janitorial	1.000	400.000	YR	300.00	100.00	400.00
	Other-Erosion Control Supplies	1.000	1800.000	YR	1,350.00	450.00	1,800.00
	Other-Vandalism Repair	1.000	3000.000	YR	2,250.00	750.00	3,000.00
	Other-Structures & Grounds	1.000	5000.000	YR	3,750.00	1,250.00	5,000.00
	Irrigation Parts	1.000	1000.000	YR	750.00	250.00	1,000.00
	Other-Water System Testing & Maintance	1.000	150.000	YR	112.50	37.50	150.00
	Other-Small Tools & Equipment	1.000	1500.000	YR	1,125.00	375.00	1,500.00
	Total for Materials / Supplies				25,987.50	8,662.50	34,650.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: Stanislaus County Parks and Recreation Department
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6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
	Equipment Rental	1.000	1500.000	YR	1,125.00	375.00	1,500.00
	Other-Diesel Emissions PM Filters	2.000	12000.000	YR	18,000.00	6,000.00	24,000.00
	Total for Equipment Use Expenses				19,125.00	6,375.00	25,500.00
5	Equipment Purchases						
	Other-Projector	1.000	1000.000	YR	750.00	250.00	1,000.00
6	Others						
	Utilities Notes : Increase from last years grant - 15%	12.000	82.490	MOS	742.50	247.50	990.00
	Other-Cell Phone/Call Box	12.000	180.000	MOS	1,620.00	540.00	2,160.00
	Total for Others				2,362.50	787.50	3,150.00
7	Administrative Costs						
Total Program Expenses					120,191.00	40,064.00	160,255.00
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES					120,191.00	40,064.00	160,255.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES					120,191.00	40,064.00	160,255.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
 Agency: Stanislaus County Parks and Recreation Department
 Application: Ground Operations - La Grange

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	70,841.00	23,614.00	94,455.00	
2	Contracts	1,125.00	375.00	1,500.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	25,987.50	8,662.50	34,650.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	19,125.00	6,375.00	25,500.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	750.00	250.00	1,000.00	
6	Others	2,362.50	787.50	3,150.00	
7	Administrative Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Program Expenses		120,191.00	40,064.00	160,255.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		120,191.00	40,064.00	160,255.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		120,191.00	40,064.00	160,255.00	

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☒ Yes ☐ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- c. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No
- d. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 3 – 9

ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

The maintenance that is going on with existing trails and roads are not near wetlands, navigable waters, and sensitive habitats.

ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

Stanislaus County has filed a "Notice of Exemption" - Categorical Exemption section number 15301 which states, "consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment..." La Grange will be involved in strictly the operations and maintenance of the Off-Highway Vehicle Parks facility. There will be no cumulative impacts with this Ground Operations Project. Without the maintenance and grooming impacts could be significant.

ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts

The proposed ground operations activities will not have a significant effect on the environment due to the lack of unusually steep slopes or highly erodible soil.

ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources

La Grange Regional OHV Park is not within the view shed of a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway.

ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts

This ground operations project will not cause any indirect significant impact. We will strictly focus on operations and maintenance activities.

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Attachments:

[La Grange Notice of Exemption](#)

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1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the cost of the Project covered by the Applicant is 0

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 76% or more (10 points)
☐ 51% - 75% (5 points)
☐ 26% - 50% (3 points)
☒ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Failure to Complete - Q 2.

2. Failure to complete the Project would result in: 8

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 8 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Loss of OHV Opportunity (6 points)
☐ Negative impact to cultural sites (2 points)
☐ Damage to special-status species or other sensitive habitat (2 points)
☒ Potential trespass (2 points)
☒ Additional damage to Facilities (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Failure of this project would mean a potential reduction of staff, which could result in park closer and loss of OHV opportunity. Reduced staffing would also minimize the amount of fence patrol and substantially increase the possibility of trespassing on neighboring property due to downed fences. Vandalism is a huge issue at this site. Failure to complete this project would subject the public to additional safety hazards and unsightly conditions.

3. Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 3.

3. The Project would sustain OHV Opportunity by 13

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Maintaining trail or road tread (5 points)
☒ Installing or repairing erosion control features (3 points)
☒ Providing traffic control and/or educational signage (3 points)
☒ Maintaining multi use (ATV, Dirt Bikes, 4x4, etc) (1 point)
☒ Providing varied levels of riding difficulty (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

This project would sustain OHV Opportunity by:

Maintaining trails - With additional staff on site there are more opportunities to keep the trails maintained and ready for use for the weekend races and the weekly public visits.

Installing or repairing erosion control features - This project will make sure that water bars are installed and there will be rehabilitation of the trail surface.

Providing varied levels of riding difficulty in multi use areas - It would allow more time to structure multi use areas for varying skill levels allowing users more opportunities to safely utilize the park.

4. Public Input - Q 4.

4. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
- ☐ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
- ☒ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Stanislaus County is preparing to have a general meeting to discuss this grant and other issues regarding our OHV parks. This will be completed after the preliminary grant deadline is met. Within this same group, we have stakeholders who are consistently present to discuss issues and make decisions regarding the forward direction of this OHV park.

5. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 5.

5. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ 4 or more (4 points)
- ☐ 2 to 3 (2 points)
- ☐ 1 (1 point)
- ☐ None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

Sheriff's Department
California Motocross Association
Modesto Ridgerunners
CORVA

6. Impact to Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 6.

6. The Project will avoid and/or minimize impact to natural and cultural resources by 2

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 7 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Maintaining physical barriers to control OHV use (1 point)
- ☐ Protecting water quality (1 point)
- ☐ Providing bridges instead of wet crossings where appropriate (1 point)
- ☐ Protecting special-status species (1 point)
- ☐ Re-routing trails to divert away from riparian/wetlands areas (1 point)
- ☒ Providing sanitary facilities (1 point)
- ☐ Protecting cultural site(s) (1 point)
- ☐ Site design precludes the need for the above measures (7 points)

Explain each statement that was checked

This project will minimize impact to the area by maintaining barriers - For example, fences to help keep people off of private property, and natural barriers like large boulders to keep people safe in their riding experience. We also provide clean restroom and campground facilities.

7. Recycled Materials - Q 7.

7. The Project incorporates recycled materials by utilizing 2

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Barrier materials which include recycled content or materials obtained onsite (1 point)
- ☐ Signs, sign posts or education kiosks which use products with recycled content (1 point)
- ☐ Erosion control features which use materials with recycled content (1 point)
- ☒ Paper used for trail maps which includes recycled content (1 point)
- ☐ Other products with recycled content (Specify) (1 point)

8. Sustainable Technologies - Q 8.

8. The Project makes substantial use of sustainable technologies such as 4

- Alternative fuel vehicles and equipment
- Renewable energy sources (e.g., solar, wind)
- Low volatile organic compound emission materials (e.g., paint, sealants, carpet)
- Low flow plumbing fixtures
- Water efficient landscaping

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

☐ No (No points)

☒ Yes (4 points)

Explain 'Yes' response

La Grange OHV utilizes low volatile organic compound paints for structures like bathrooms, entrance station, and a concrete well enclosure.

9. Motorized Access - Q 9.

9. The Project improves and/or maintains facilities that provide motorized access to the following non-motorized recreation opportunities 6

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each, up to a maximum of 6 points (Please select applicable values)

☒ Camping

☒ Birding

☒ Hiking

☐ Equestrian trails

☐ Fishing

☐ Rock Climbing

☐ Other (Specify)